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REMARKS

In the final Office Action claims 1-33 were pending and claims 1-33 stand rejected. Applicants respectfully request entry and favorable consideration of the amendments and remarks tendered herewith. Independent claims 1, 16, and 31-33 are herewith amended, claim 30 is herewith canceled without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter thereof and no new claims are added. Thus, following entry of this Amendment After Final claims 1-29 and 31-33 are pending examination on the merits.

The present Amendment After Final is intended to place the application in condition for allowance, avoid raising additional issues and not require any additional searching or application of newly identified prior art. Applicants respectfully request entry and favorable consideration of the remarks and amendments tendered herewith.

I. Claim Objection Under 37 CFR 1.75

Claims 30-31 stand rejected as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.75 and correction was required.

Applicants herewith amend claim 31 (since claim 30 has been canceled) to provide line indentation for each claim element and respectfully suggest that said amended claim 31 meets the requirements of 37 CFR 1.75.

II. Rejections under 35 USC §112

Claims 31-32 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Applicants herewith amend claims 31-32 to rectify the alleged lack of definiteness and to add clarity to certain phrases of said claims and requests the Examiner to withdraw this ground of rejection.

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III. Rejections under 35 USC §103

Claims 1-11 and 13-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over combinations of several references, including (the '771 patent to) Snell in view of (the '770 patent to) Nappholz et al. in further view of (the '906 patent to) Kroll.

Claims 1 and 16 are herewith amended to affirmatively include claim coverage for simultaneous (i.e., redundant) communication channels as fully supported in the application as originally filed. Applicants confirm that no New Matter is introduced with said amendments.

Applicants respectfully assert that none of the cited reference, Snell, Nappholz and Knoll disclose or depict simultaneous data communication as claimed herein.

Claims 32-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over (the '877 patent to) Nolan et al. in view of Kroll in further view of Snell.

Applicants likewise amend independent claims 32 and 33, and as indicated above, assert that Nolan, Kroll and Snell individually and in combination teach or disclose the presently claimed invention. For the forgoing reasons Applicants respectfully request that the ground of rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Snell and Nappholz in view of Kroll.

Applicants note that claim 12 depends from independent claim 1 which has already been shown itself to cover patentable subject matter. Accordingly, claim 12 too can be viewed as covering patentable subject matter.

Applicants herewith amend the independent claims to render them patentably distinct over the applied art. That is, Applicants could not locate any teaching or suggestion motivating one of skill in the art to combine said art to

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provide the claimed invention. As such, Applicants respectfully assert that the amended claims are in condition for allowance so that the claimed invention may proceed to timely issuance as U.S. Letters Patent.


IV. Conclusion

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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